

Sinclair Broadcasting is clearly abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves to unfairly influence the outcome of this year's Presidential Election. Sinclair's decision to coerce their stations into airing an anti-Kerry "documentary" less than two weeks before the election is an egregious example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control what the public sees and hears, the only interest being served is that of the corporate ledger. To offer partisan broadcasts as "news" is deeply disingenuous and should be disturbing to all who value fair play.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process should be stringent enough to consider the real public interest, both locally and nationally. Thank you.